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TAGS: PARM KACT MARR PREL RS US

SUBJECT: SFO-GVA-VIII: (U) CONVERSION OR ELIMINATION WORKING GROUP
MEETING, FEBRUARY 1, 2010 - CORRECTED

CLASSIFIED BY: Rose A. Gottemoeller, Assistant Secretary, Department
of State, VCI; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

¶1. (U) This is SFO-GVA-VIII-003.

¶2. (U) Meeting Date: February 1, 2010

Time: 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Place: U.S. Mission, Geneva

SUMMARY

¶3. (S) At the Conversion or Elimination (CorE) Working Group meeting co-chaired by Mr. Elliott and Colonel Ryzhkov, the sides reviewed the U.S.-proposed Joint Draft Text of December 17, 2009. Substantive and other clarifying changes made were identified by the sides. Elliott took the opportunity to provide U.S.-proposed agreed statements to the Russian side. End summary.

¶4. (U) SUBJECT SUMMARY: Section I General Provisions; Section II Procedures for Elimination of ICBMs and SLBMs; Section III Procedures for CorE of ICBM Launchers/Elimination of Silo Launchers of ICBMs; Section IV Procedures for CorE of SLBM Launchers; and

Section V Procedures for CorE of Heavy Bombers.

SECTION I GENERAL PROVISIONS

¶15. (S) Regarding Paragraph 4 of the General Provisions which described CorE procedures developed by a Party, Ryzhkov stated that the Russian side had previously dropped its bracketed text "Upon clarification" and had accepted the U.S. formulation, "After the demonstration, these procedures shall be recorded in the framework of the BCC and may be used thereafter for conversion or elimination of the specified strategic offensive arms subject to this Treaty."

SECTION II Procedures for Elimination of ICBMs and SLBMs

¶16. (S) To add flexibility, Ryzhkov recommended adding "or cut into pieces of approximately equal size" at the end of the text in paragraph 2(b) which described procedures for the elimination of solid-fueled ICBMs and SLBMs when removing the fuel by burning. Elliott accepted the addition and also recommended removing the U.S.-brackets around the word "rocket" in the same paragraph. Ryzhkov accepted.

¶17. (S) In paragraph 4, which described the 60-day period of time for verification of the elimination of launch canisters using national technical means (NTM), Ryzhkov added "a 30-day period" in brackets because he believed that 30 days was sufficient for verification by NTM. In paragraph 5, which described the prohibition against transferring eliminated launch canisters to third parties outside of Russia, Ryzhkov added the bracketed text "or the U.S." to clarify that the prohibition applied to both sides.

SECTION III Procedures for C OR E of ICBM launchers/elimination of silo launchers of icbms

¶18. (S) The sides agreed to add "the chassis of" and change "military facilities" to "declared facilities" in paragraph 4(b) which described procedures for the elimination of mobile launchers of ICBMs. The U.S. side added bracket text to replace "white" at the end of this paragraph resulting in the formulation, "If the chassis of the eliminated mobile launcher of ICBMs is used at a declared facility for purposes not inconsistent with the treaty, the upper surfaces of the vehicle and items mounted on the chassis, visible to national technical means, shall be painted ((in such a way that it is distinguishable from a deployed mobile launcher of ICBMs.))¹"

¶9. (S) The Russian side accepted the U.S.-bracketed text "with the exception of paragraph 4(b) of this section" at the end of paragraph 4(b) which described when the eliminated mobile launcher ceased to be subject to the treaty. In paragraph 7, the sides agreed to replace "the new" with "other" which described when a converted launcher was considered a launcher to which it was converted.

SECTION IV Procedures for c or e of SLBM Launchers

¶10. (S) In paragraph 4, which described the movement of a submarine once its launchers had been eliminated, the sides agreed to remove both the U.S. and Russian-bracketed text at the end of sentence one, leaving the formulation "Upon the expiration of the 60-day period provided for in accordance with paragraph 3 of this section, the submarine may then be moved to a conversion or elimination facility." The U.S.-bracketed text, "and visible to national technical means of verification" remained. Ryzhkov stated the text remained bracketed since elimination of a submarine was conducted inside a structure and was not visible to NTM. The sides agreed to delete the text "one or more" in the title for the Procedures for the Conversion of SLBM Launchers subsection following paragraph 4.

¶11. (S) Text in paragraphs 5 and 6 was changed to reflect a singular SLBM launcher versus plural SLBM launchers and in paragraph 7, the word "completed" was changed to "conducted" in the sentence restricting movement of a converted submarine until after either an inspection or expiration of a 30-day period.

SECTION V Procedures for c or e of Heavy Bombers

¶12. (S) In paragraph 1, which described the cutting of the tail or wing from the fuselage, the text "at locations obviously not assembly joints" was added to clarify the location of the cut.

AGREED STATEMENTS

¶13. (S) Prior to concluding the meeting, Elliott took the opportunity to provide U.S.-proposed agreed statements to the Russian side on the following issues: Rapid Reload; Basing of Deployed Heavy Bombers at the CorE Facility Located at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona; Converted B-1b Heavy Bombers; Joint Basing of Heavy Bombers Equipped for Nuclear Armaments and Heavy Bombers Equipped for Non-Nuclear Armaments; Movements of ICBMs to and from the Leninsk Test Range, Republic of Kazakhstan; Trident I SLBMs; and U.S. Guided Missile Submarines (SSGNs) Converted from SSBNs.

¶14. (U) Documents provided:

- United States:

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "Rapid Reload," dated January 13, 2010;

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "Basing of Deployed Heavy Bombers at the Conversion or Elimination Facility Located at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona," dated February 1, 2010;

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "Converted B-1b Heavy Bombers," dated February 1, 2010;

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "Joint Basing of Heavy Bombers Equipped for Nuclear Armaments and Heavy Bombers Equipped for Non-Nuclear Armaments," dated February 1, 2010;

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "Movements of ICBMs to and from the Leninsk Test Range, Republic of Kazakhstan," dated February 1, 2010;

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "Trident I SLBMs," dated February 1, 2010; and

-- Paper of the U.S. Side, Agreed Statement on "U.S. Guided Missile Submarines (SSGNs) Converted from SSBNs," dated February 1, 2010.

¶15. (U) Participants:

UNITED STATES

Mr. Elliott

Lt Col Goodman

Mr. Hanchett (RO)

Mr. Sobchenko (Int)

RUSSIA

Col Ryzhkov

Mr. Malyugin

Mr. Shevchenko

Mr. Smirnov

Ms. Komshilova (Int)

¶16. (U) Gottemoeller sends.

GRIFFITHS